



Tabor Academy
RDFZ XISHAN SCHOOL
March 11th-19th 2018
Exchange & Homestay in Beijing



To Tabor students going to Beijing this spring:

We are fortunate to be welcomed to Beijing by students, faculty, and parents of Tabor's partner school in Beijing, RDFZ XISHAN SCHOOL. This school is one of 16 branches of one of China's most famous high schools, the High School Attached to People's University, or RDFZ – 人大附中. Here are some guidelines on being a good home stay guest:

- Home stay arrangements: You may be invited to home stay with another Tabor student (same gender), or you might go alone. Your host family will have a current RDFZ student. Your room may be small, and you may be asked to use a sleeping bag. Living space in China is smaller than in the US. You might stay with an opposite gender student, just as some RDFZ visiting students last spring at Tabor.
- What costs should I pay? You should expect to pay your costs when you go out with your host family, such as to a restaurant, or entertainment, or a special outing. In fact your host family will probably insist on paying. But you should offer. Please bring a small gift for your host family, and look for ways to show your appreciation for their hospitality and kindness. If you have an ATM card, you will be able to use it at local banks to obtain Chinese currency. US\$ 1 = 7 Chinese Yuan (renminbi).
- Invitations: In most cases you should accept offers and invitations from the host family as a good guest. It is all right to say you would like to rest instead of going somewhere, but you should be open and excited for new opportunities and experiences.
- Alcohol, tobacco and drugs: You may not use or be in the presence of these, and you should expect to be sent home if you are. It is unlikely that your host will suggest this to you, since they understand our school policies at Tabor.
- Do I have to speak Chinese? Your host parents may not speak English. If you study Chinese at Tabor, please use your skills to communicate with your host family. They will appreciate this, even if your Chinese is basic. If you do not speak any Chinese, your host student will speak English and will help you talk with their parents.
- Rules: You should find out what the parents expect of their own son or daughter and follow these expectations carefully. They include when to be home, when to turn lights out, computer use times, when to eat, and keeping your room clean. You should take the initiative to find these things out, and not make assumptions.
- What if I get sick or have an accident? The emergency phone number in China (police) is 110. Medical care in Beijing is excellent, and you will all be covered by your own health insurance, or by Tabor-arranged health insurance. We will give you and your host the phone number for a contact person at RDFZ for any emergency.